

BIBLE SOCIETY RECORD

SEPTEMBER, 1944



VOL. 89

No. 7



The Blind may now hear the entire Bible on Talking Book Records.
(see page 104)

Halsmon

TRANSLATION • PUBLICATION • DISTRIBUTION • ENCOURAGEMENT OF USE

Items of Interest

"Where it might do the most good"

"The enclosed money order for \$10 is the contribution of a soldier who wishes to keep his identity unknown. He gave me the gift to be contributed at my discretion to the work of the Church. I suggested the Bible Society, because he was a regular attendant at a Bible class I was conducting . . . and has found strength and comfort in The Word. I also suggested it because of the fine work you . . . do in providing the Scriptures to the men in service, as well as to all peoples of the world. To this he agreed whole-heartedly, for he wanted it to go 'where it might do the most good.'

"I know that these circumstances will make it a cherished gift to you. Please credit it to a soldier friend and not to me, for I am just the agent by whom it is forwarded to you. It is the sincere gift of a young man far from home who finds his help in the faith that takes root and grows by hearing the Word of God.

"My own sincere thanks to you for your generous gift of the Scriptures to us as chaplains, and through us to the men in the service."

Word from French Guiana

The Society recently sent a supply of books to French Guiana, where there has been a shortage of Scriptures. Mr. A. M. Lanicca, to whom the books were sent, reports these interesting incidents:

"A Chinaman, chief of a settlement for deportees, and himself a political deportee, whom I met in a far-off village, ordered a French Bible. When he had got it by mail he thanked us warmly for the 'good intention to show him the right way that can redeem his soul,' and sent double the amount for the book. . . .

"In another village a young Creole school teacher, who had become a Bible reader when at college at Cayenne, is now visiting ignorant, because untaught, people of his village with the light of eternal truth and grace. At his last visit in Cayenne he ordered three Bibles."

From a grateful chaplain in the Army Air Force:

"At this time I want to thank you and those who contribute to your work for the shipment of Bibles, Testaments, and Gospels received a month or more ago. Very few of the soldiers I contact have not at some time received a Testament. However, I find men quite frequently who have never had one and are glad to receive a copy. This is particularly true

of the Catholic men. I met a Staff Sergeant a month or so ago who had been a bomber crew member shot down once in the Bering Sea and once elsewhere. His name is Poplawski. He had never read the Bible, hadn't been to church for five years and looked forward to little more than getting drunk when he returned to this country. But he knew that some men got help from having and reading the Bible. He wanted to have one himself, so I looked him up at his work the next day and gave him one of your P43 Bibles with some words of explanation and advice. Last week I saw him again in the hospital and asked him about his Bible. He still had it and affirmed that he was about half-way through it. I am praying that Isaiah 55: 11 will prove true in his case. I find quite a few men who are anxious to get a complete Bible, however; I usually start with a Gospel and do not give out Testaments or Bibles without a real personal contact.

"My supply is ample for the present with the exception of complete Bibles and some Portions. I could use to advantage 100 copies of Acts in the two cents edition if you wish to send them. Also could use 24 copies of P43 Bibles."

Appreciation from the Navy

"We received your shipment of New Testaments (Navy binding) in the morning's mail. We certainly appreciate your contribution in carrying on the religious work among the men in our Armed Forces. It would be impossible for the Chaplains' Corps to do an adequate job without the assistance of such organizations as yours. We feel deeply indebted to you for your unselfish help.

"Thank you again for your sincere Christian interest in our men in uniform."

Appreciation from the Army

"Have recently received your kind letter of 17th of May informing us that the literature requested by us is *en route*. We were very glad to get this good news, as the men have been very eager to get copies of the Scriptures and leaflets of a religious nature. So far we have been able to supply their requests.

"It is only through the cooperation and interest of the folk at home that we are able to get these helps to the men. For that reason we are very grateful for your evidenced interest and kind assistance. Although the shipments haven't arrived

(Continued on page 107)

BIBLE SOCIETY RECORD

A Journal Dedicated to the Wider Distribution of the Holy Scriptures

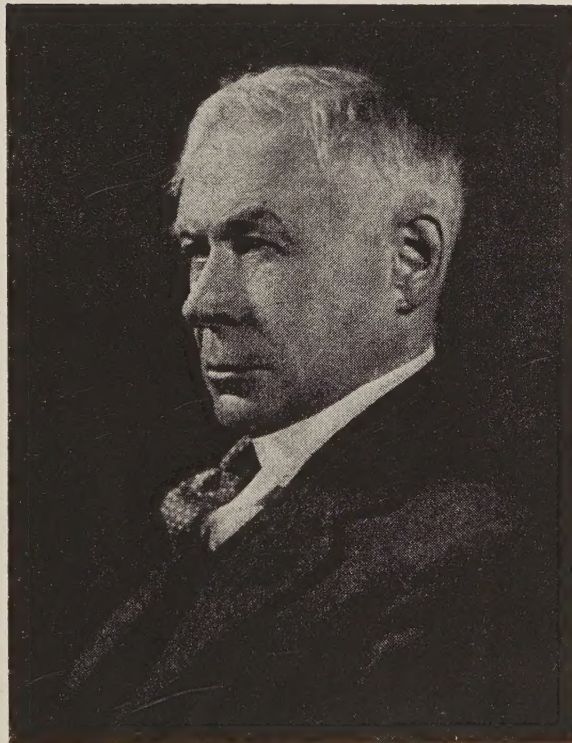
Volume 89

September 1944

Number 7

President Daniel Burke

THE Board of Managers, on July 6, 1944, elected Daniel Burke, LL.D., of Summit, New Jersey, as the nineteenth President of the American Bible Society. He has been a member of the Board since April 1923 during which time he has actively served on the Foreign Agencies and Finance Committees. Because of his wide experience, he brings to his new office a thorough knowledge of the purpose and methods of the Society.



In 1932, he was a delegate of the American Bible Society to the conference in London, England, of the American, British and Scottish Bible Societies.

His continued interest and valuable counsel have been most helpful.

Mr. Burke is the head of the firm of Burke and Burke, attorneys, with offices in New York City. He is also President of the R. T. French Company at Rochester, New York.

A graduate of Hamilton College and of New York Law School, since 1937 Mr. Burke has been Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Hamilton College, by which he was given the LL.D. degree in 1936. He is a Methodist, a Trustee of the Methodist Church and President of the Trustees of the Young Men's Christian Association of Summit, New Jersey.

As president, Mr. Burke succeeds the beloved John T. Manson who died last Febru-

ary after twenty-eight years on the Board.

Speaking of his new office in an interview with a news reporter, Mr. Burke said: "I shall contribute anything that I can to further the interests of the Bible Society as such and its purpose and ideals as implemented by the officers and managers."

Those who have worked with him rejoice in his election to the presidency, counting on him for wise, effective leadership.

Personal Evangelism

by Charles W. Turner

SOME weeks ago the Reverend Agenor Mafra, pastor of the Presbyterian Church of Nictheroy (on the other side of Rio de Janeiro Bay) delivered an interesting and stimulating address at the monthly interdenominational gathering of Rio and Nictheroy pastors, which meets at the Rio Bible House, on the subject of "Evangelism through the distribution of Gospels."

Senhor Mafra affirmed that during his travels throughout the state of Rio de Janeiro by train or automobile he has often been impressed with the



A little village in Brazil transformed by the Gospel

large number of unchurched people. Frequently he has asked himself, How can we preach the Gospel to these people who are beyond the reach of our places of worship? Says he, They will never come to us; we must therefore go directly to them!

Reflecting on the question at considerable length and praying for light upon it, Senhor Mafra was led to find what he firmly believes is the solution. He is convinced that wide and careful distribution of Gospels will provide a real and satisfying answer to the wistful questionings of thousands of people who reside beyond the reach of the organized evangelical churches.

Senhor Mafra immediately put his conviction into operation in regions not too distant from Nictheroy. After spending several days on this interesting experiment he reported that he was able to make an average of one hundred calls a day. During each of these calls he conversed with people at their homes, explaining his purpose and giving them the

opportunity to accept a Gospel. An average of five percent rejected him, but on the other hand he has seen many others overcome to the point of tears upon hearing his purpose and message. It was the first time they had been confronted in this way, and they were taken by storm. A large number were full of gratitude for his visit. Most of them invited him to stay for a cup of coffee. "And without any doubt," affirms Senhor Mafra, "many of the contacts made during these days will be permanent."

This consecrated minister of Jesus Christ concluded his challenging address with this significant statement: "If work of this kind could be carried out on a large scale in the spirit of prayer and consecration, I am convinced that it would hasten immensely the evangelization of Brazil."

The Bible Society is encouraging such productive experiments in personal evangelism in other parts of Brazil.

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Kijita New Testaments

Continue to Arrive

in East Africa

IN a recent letter to Secretary North from Frank E. Manning (Tanganyika Territory, East Africa), the translator of the Kijita New Testament, comes this word:

"I believe one of the native believers summed up our thoughts when he said, 'I have nothing but praise to the Lord for the work of the Bible Society.'

"Concerning the sale of the Kijita New Testaments, often natives will come in and see the diminishing stock of the Testaments, and then ask, 'Will there be any left for me when I receive money from the sale of my cotton?' (From July through September their cotton is sold.)

"We are trusting that the government will allow us to import Testaments in freight shipments soon. In the meantime the Testaments continue to arrive by parcel post, one hundred and eight copies . . . to date. We rejoice again and again for the three boxes of Testaments that arrived by freight at the same time we arrived."

Bible Sharers Needed

HERE is a letter recently received from a chaplain with the 8th Marines, United States Marine Corps: "It is a pleasure for me to be able to send you the enclosed Postal Money Order in the amount of one hundred dollars (\$100.00). I do so in behalf of Protestant men in my regiment who have contributed liberally for the support of Kingdom causes. The work of your Society is evidenced wherever we go, and that your influence through the dissemination of the Word of God may increase we consider it a privilege to help the Great Cause along."

Many similar letters have been received from chaplains and service men alike enclosing gifts to enable the Society to continue the task of supplying Scriptures to their comrades in the armed forces.

Here is firsthand testimony of the importance attached to the Bible by those who have the best opportunity of seeing the good accomplished when the Scriptures speak directly to a man from the printed page.

Those who read the *July Record* will remember the double page devoted to a statement of the War Emergency Fund for the year beginning July 1, 1944.

The largest single item is the one to continue supplying the armed forces—\$582,500. Of this amount \$200,000 is for whole Bibles, \$360,000 for New Testaments and \$22,500 for gospel portions. This is larger than the amount which the Society anticipates receiving from living donors for its regular program for the year 1944.

Add to that the needs for prisoners of war, emergency editions, and Scriptures for liberated areas and the total of \$1,102,000 assumes truly great proportions.

Obviously, new channels of support must be found if the work is to be done and somehow it must be done.

The officers of the Society have faith to believe that if its loyal friends and supporters rally round, the work will be done.

Last spring in connection with the seal campaign notice was given of a new organization called



*Men on the battlefront are really reading the Bible
A Marine on Saipan Island takes time out*

the Bible Sharers Club. Membership cards were issued to all those who secured from others gifts of \$1.00 or more. Attractive buttons and pins as awards of merit to any who secured more or larger gifts were also prepared (\$5.00 for the button—\$25.00 for the pin). To date the membership of the Bible Sharers Club comes to nearly 650 friends, 125 of whom have earned button awards and 10, the silver pins.

But *many more* Bible Sharers are needed to help secure the funds to place Bibles and Testaments in the hands of their husbands and brothers and friends in the armed forces. The Society will gladly furnish leaflets describing the need to any who wish to join. It would be a wonderful thing if there could be 1,000 silver pin wearers in the country by the end of the year. What a grand fellowship of Christian workers that would be. In the December *Record* the Society will print a list of its silver pin Bible Sharers. Is it impossible to have that number by then? You can answer for one of them.

Perhaps you can interest your Sunday-school or Bible class. Perhaps your sewing group or social club would respond. There are many ways.

Let's keep our army the Bible-readingest army in all our history and thus take a long step toward winning the *peace*.

The following statement has been signed by Commanders in Chief of the British Navy, Army and Air Forces—

"WE commend the Gospel of Christ our Saviour, for it alone can effectively mould character, control conduct and solve the problems of men and nations. Faith in Christ the Lord and obedience to His Will as revealed in the Bible ensures peace of mind and brings satisfaction in service to God and men."
(Signed) Andrew Cunningham (Admiral of the Fleet and First Sea Lord), Jack C. Tovey (Admiral), H. R. Alexander (General), B. Paget (General), E. L. Gorsage (Air Marshal).

A Recent Newspaper Clipping

Whole Regiment Will Get Bibles

THE *New York Sun's* Dave Boone wrote two columns recently—one applauding the American Bible Society's determination to meet the demand for Bibles from soldiers, sailors, refugees and distressed people everywhere. Today, a whole regiment of men is assured copies of the Holy Book, following *The Sun's* receipt of a letter, enclosing a check for \$300, made payable to the Bible Society; the donor prefers to be identified only as "an old-time Christian business concern, operating on original American principles."

Dave Boone Says:

Maybe you think there were enough buy-stamps campaigns on, but just the same there is one sponsored by the American Bible Society that is worth a helping hand. There has never been such a demand for Bibles as there is today. The Bible Society, a non-profit organization, is trying to finance production and distribution by "Bible Stamps," to be bought and used the same as Christmas seals.

Twenty cents will get a Bible to one man, \$1.40 will get Bibles to seven men. For \$8 you can furnish a platoon with copies of the Holy Book. \$300 will take care of a regiment.

The American Bible Society is determined to meet the demand for God's word from soldiers, sailors, refugees and distressed population everywhere. Its address is Park avenue and 57th street, New York, and it asks help.

There are a good many borders which nobody tries to cross in this war, but nobody considers the Bible contraband at any of 'em.

When you help distribute the Bible you not only comfort our fighting men but you help circulate the greatest instrument for peace.

The publicity-shy benefactor wrote in answer to Dave Boone, "You are constantly preaching practical sermons to *The New York Sun's* hundreds of thousands of readers in a way that 'goes home' to many people who would otherwise scoff at, or neglect

to realize or admit, some of the truths that you are putting into practical words.

"Our companies," he continued, "are old-established ones operated by hard-headed young business men, but in memory of our founders, who were hard-working Christian men, we have made a practice of tithing the firm's profits now for several years. As part of this tithing fund we enclose our check for \$300, which will supply a Bible to every man in a regiment."

Reached by telephone, the vice-president of the company revealed that it is owned and operated by three men, two brothers and one brother-in-law, who set up the tithing fund—10 percent of the profits from the business—which is distributed among charitable organizations or persons deemed worthy of assistance. "Our folk want no publicity or credit for tithing," he added. "Lots of American firms do this sort of thing; we're just trying to run our business on the principles of Christianity."

Christian missions all over the world have benefited from the fund, according to the company's vice-president, who also disclosed that missions have been built and supported throughout the Kentucky and Tennessee mountains "and all the way to Arkansas." The company also has anonymously sponsored several church radio hours over a coast-to-coast network, and has rendered assistance to a number of Army chaplains. Today's check will be turned over to the American Bible Society at its headquarters, Park avenue and 57th street.

Children Receive Bibles

PASTORS and Sunday-school teachers will be interested in the following used by a minister on presenting Bibles to children of his Sunday-school, where each child on reaching seven is presented with a copy of the Book:

"You are now receiving the most precious object within the power of your Sunday school and church to give—the HOLY WORD of the Lord, our Father in the Heavens. You will not treat this as other books, but will remember that the words in it are the Lord's own words which He gave to men long, long ago. He wanted them to know Him, and know the kind of people He wants them to be.

"When you read it He will speak to you out of it, and the angels will draw near and help you to be good children, and later the men and women the Lord has meant you to be. May you read it daily and love it more and more.

"The Lord bless you and keep you and always lead you, as you daily read this Bible.

"Your Minister."

Nationwide Bible Reading— Thanksgiving to Christmas

A GREAT Nationwide Bible Reading, under the sponsorship of the American Bible Society and National Committees formed for this purpose, is planned this year for the period from Thanksgiving to Christmas. This will be an expansion of the observance of Universal Bible Sunday sponsored annually by the Society, which comes this year on December 10.

Passages specially helpful for times like these have been chosen, one for each day, by a nationwide canvass of pastors and chaplains. People at home and members of the armed forces are all being invited to join in the reading.

Three outstanding facts have led the American Bible Society to plan this Bible reading emphasis on a scale never before attempted in our country:

1. Hundreds of thousands of men and women in the armed forces and multitudes at home are already finding the Bible an inspiration and guide; now as never before. Because so many in the armed forces have written asking their families and friends at home to join them in their reading, a home-front emphasis on Bible reading can well be considered an essential part of keeping faith with our men on the fighting fronts.

2. Our American people need the help of thoughtful Bible reading on the widest possible scale in order to strengthen moral character and reinforce our spiritual power to withstand the strain of the remaining months of the war and the perilous years that follow.

3. Many people, though they recognize the necessity for it, still require the encouragement of a special emphasis and concerted action before they themselves will take part in Bible reading. Others who would like to read the Bible do not quite know how to begin and need direction.

This nationwide effort, promoted vigorously by the churches and publicized in every way possible through newspapers, magazines, radio, etc., can be expected to enlist many who have never before been accustomed to reading the Bible.

The emphasis on daily reading will encourage many who have been only casual readers to continue the custom of daily reading after this special emphasis by following the long-established regular programs of daily Bible reading sponsored by the various organizations in the churches.

The American Bible Society is furnishing to pastors, without charge, in whatever quantity they can use, bookmarks listing the selected passages. Posters and other special materials are also being provided free of charge. Ask your pastor for the supplies you will need.

As a church member you can help in these ways:

1. In the church organizations of which you are a member, encourage your fellow-workers to take part in the reading and to invite others to do so.

2. Offer to help your pastor carry out plans for the greatest possible emphasis on Bible reading in your church and throughout your community by the cooperative effort of the churches, schools, civic and other organizations, merchants, newspapers, radio stations, etc.

3. If for any reason your pastor can not give attention to this matter, ask him to appoint someone else to take charge. If your church is without a pastor, make sure that someone takes the responsibility of leading in this Nationwide Bible Reading.

If you are a pastor, here are ways in which you can help:

1. Plan now to make the Nationwide Bible Reading from Thanksgiving to Christmas a major emphasis in your fall program. Every organization in the life of your church can, help not only its own members and strengthen its regular program, but can also greatly widen its ministry of usefulness by encouraging its members to take part in the reading and to invite others to do so.

2. Arrange for a community-wide emphasis on Bible reading through the cooperative effort of the churches, schools, civic and other organizations, merchants, newspapers, radio stations, etc.

3. Request early the supplies your church will need. You should receive by mail not later than the first week of October, an envelope containing samples and a card for sending your request. If your envelope does not arrive promptly, please send a postal card requesting one.

Further information may be secured by writing to—

**Nationwide Bible Reading
American Bible Society
Park Avenue and 57th Street
New York 22, New York**

JUST a little over a century ago, the American Bible Society completed the first Bible in raised Roman letters for the Blind. It now offers the complete Bible on 169 Talking Book records to the sightless.

The Bible is the longest Talking Book so far produced, the total reading time being 84½ hours. Beginning in 1934 with the recording of the Gospels, the last book to be recorded was the Book of Numbers, which was ready for distribution in June, 1944. The King James Version is used. The Old Testament requires 129 records and the New Testament 40. The Book of Genesis is on 8 records, the Psalms on 9, Isaiah on 7 and the Gospel of John on 4. The recording was made at the sound studios of the American Foundation for the Blind, and in undertaking this task of placing the complete Bible on Talking Book records the foundation has had the financial assistance of the Library of Congress, the American Bible Society and the New York Bible Society.

While blind persons may borrow the Scriptures and also Talking Books on various subjects—biography, fiction, history, philosophy, science—from the twenty-seven regional libraries of the Library of Congress throughout the country, they prefer to have the Bible records as their very own. The Society is happy therefore to offer them to blind persons at a fraction of their cost—25 cents each, plus a small amount for postage; and when a person is unable to



Blind Bobbie Eden received his first Braille volume of the Bible

The Bible

169 Talking

by S.

Small Volume of Scripture



Title in ink print

meet this nominal price, a full donation is made.

And what is the Talking Book? It resembles an ordinary twelve-inch phonograph record, being somewhat thinner and more durable. One side of the record bears the title of the book in ink print and the other side has the title notation in Braille. The sound grooves on these disks run very close together, so that each side will read aloud for about fifteen minutes.

These records are played at 33⅓ revolutions a minute, while the average phonograph record is played at 78 revolutions a minute. For this reason the Talking Book records cannot be played on the ordinary phonograph but are played on a "Talking Book" machine which has been especially constructed so that blind people can easily operate it by touch. On each record it is clearly stated "Recorded solely for the use of the blind."

A blind person may buy a reading machine at cost price from the American Foundation for the Blind, but the majority of blind people borrow theirs from the Library of Congress, which has manufactured some 23,000 of them.

There are about 200,000 blind persons in the United States. While many sightless persons enjoy reading the Braille, Moon and other embossed systems, there are a large number who do not read any system. For these the Scripture Talking Book records are indeed a blessing.

In commemorating the one hundredth anniversary

the Blind

Book Records

arrett

two double-faced records



Title in Braille

Genesis 1: 1-5, 26-27, 2: 7
John 1: 1-5
Exodus 20: 1-7
Matthew 22: 36-40
Psalm 1
Psalm 23
Psalm 51
Psalm 91
Psalm 119: 97-104
Psalm 121
Isaiah 40: 1-8, 28-31
Isaiah 53
Isaiah 55
Matthew 1: 18-21
Luke 2: 1-20
Matthew 5: 1-12
Matthew 6: 9-15
Matthew 11: 28-30
Luke 11: 9, 10
Luke 15
John 3: 1-17
John 14
John 17
Mark 15
Mark 16: 1-15, 19, 20
Acts 2: 1-4
Romans 12
1 Corinthians 13
Hebrews 10
Hebrews 12: 1-13
1 John 3
Revelation 21: 1-11, 22-27

"In the beginning God"
"In the beginning was the Word"
The Ten Commandments
Christ's summary of the law
"Blessed is the man"
"The Lord is my shepherd"
"Have mercy upon me"
"He that dwelleth"
"O how love I thy law!"
"I will lift up mine eyes"
"Comfort ye my people"
"Who hath believed our report"
"Ho, every one that thirsteth"
The Birth of Christ
The Birth of Christ (continued)
The Beatitudes
The Lord's Prayer
"Come unto me"
"I say unto you, Ask"
Lost sheep, coin, and prodigal son
Christ's talk with Nicodemus
"Let not your heart be troubled"
Christ's prayer
The crucifixion
Christ's Ascension
Coming of the Holy Spirit
"I beseech you"
"Though I speak with the tongues"
Sufficiency of Christ's sacrifice
"Wherefore, seeing we also"
"Behold, what manner of love"
"I saw a new heaven"

A dear blind lady from Missouri, who recently requested a copy of the Scripture Passages for herself as well as one for a friend, in expressing her appreciation, says: "It truly contains the Gems of the Bible."



Max W. Mosteller, blind teacher (front row wearing dark glasses) with his sighted Bible Class

During the last ten years the Society has supplied thousands of Scripture records, but the question, "When will I be able to get the complete Bible?" has been asked many, many times. A blind man from Florida writes: "It will not be long now before I shall have the entire Bible on records. I keep these in order in regular twelve-inch record albums in a case specially built for them. It is marvelous beyond words to press a button and hear the Word of God so beautifully read!" And another from Arizona writes: "The records arrived today in perfect condition and I am sure they will be a dynamic source of better living and straighter thinking to me."

A blind mother to whom the Society had sent some volumes of the Bible in Braille, in asking for additional books, says: "The volumes of the Holy Bible which you sent me recently have brought to me a greater comfort than I had ever hoped to receive in this world. I am in the greatest sorrow of my life as this horrible war has taken the life of my son, nineteen—my only child. Most of my time is spent in Bible study."

A recent newspaper clipping states that seventy-three men have been totally blinded in the war. No doubt there will be many more of our men in service who will lose their sight before this war is ended. In sending her annual contribution for Scriptures for the Blind, a friend from Iowa wrote: "I am happy to have a share in this blessed work for those who cannot see—it is my memorial for my blessed Mother, whom God called home when she was thirty-six years of age. There is no organization that surpasses the Christian service of the American Bible Society."

Through contributions to its Blind Fund the Society is hoping to meet the needs of the sightless for the Word of God—bringing hope, inspiration and comfort to those fighting against darkness and despair.

New Orleans Bible Crusade

by

Edwin H. Bookmyer

Hospitals added a "spiritual plus" to their ministry of physical healing by placing nearly twenty thousand copies of the Gospel of St. Luke on the breakfast trays of their patients.

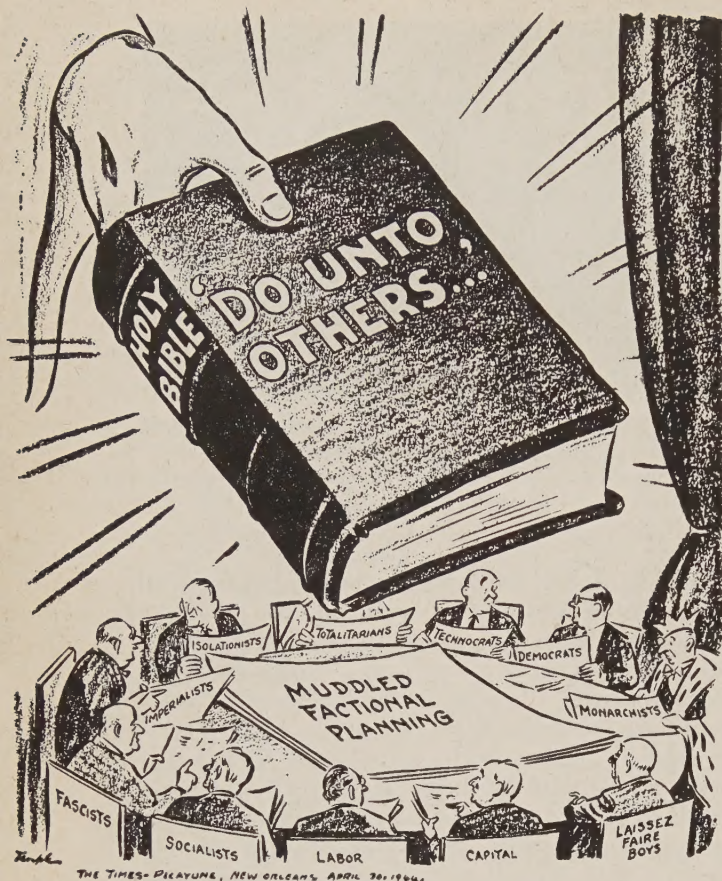
Sponsored by the New Orleans Ministers' Association and a Laymen's Committee, in cooperation with the American Bible Society, the New Orleans Bible Crusade, April 23-May 7, amply fulfilled its purpose of (1) the stimulation of a more general and regular reading of the Bible for more widespread appreciation of the mission and power of the Word of God in the life of the individual, the family, the churches, the community, the nation and the world; and (2) the supplying of underprivileged, Bibleless homes with Bibles.

During these fifteen days nearly one hundred churches opened their pulpits to speakers from the American Bible Society's staff of secretaries, who came from the headquarters offices as well as from various district and division offices throughout the nation.

The Bible Society secretaries also spoke on radio programs and brought inspirational messages to schools, youth rallies, service clubs and other organized groups. Showing of the Society's motion pictures, "THE BOOK FOR THE WORLD OF TOMORROW," "AT WORK WITH THE WORD" and "THE BIBLE IN A WARRING WORLD" helped many people in these groups to find new appreciation of the Word of God as a mighty force in human life.

At a laymen's luncheon Rome A. Betts, General Secretary of the American Bible Society and himself a layman, spoke on various ways in which laymen can increase the use of the Bible in their own communities and throughout the world. A churchwomen's luncheon was likewise held, at which Mrs. Mary Ellen Ragatz gave an outline of distinctive service which women can render in such work.

A special meeting of the Ministers' Association was arranged by the Crusade Committee, headed by Dr. J. D. Grey, pastor of the First Baptist Church, and gave the Bible Society secretaries an opportunity for fellowship with the numerous ministers present. At this meeting Secretaries Innes, Smith, Ragatz and Taylor spoke briefly on various phases of the Society's work at home and abroad by way of rendering an account of the stewardship which the churches have entrusted to the Society.



This special Cartoon for the Crusade appeared in the New Orleans Times-Picayune, April 30, 1944

BIBLES that had long been laid away and kept only as souvenirs were brought out again and read with real interest.

People who had turned to the Bible only occasionally found a new source of strength in reading it daily for a period of two weeks when one hundred thousand people in New Orleans and vicinity joined in reading the Gospel of St. Luke during this time. Many expressed their readiness to continue to read the New Testament and the rest of the Bible.

Families who wanted Bibles for their homes, but were unable to buy, were presented with gift Bibles.

Pocket-size copies of the Gospel of St. Luke, distributed widely throughout the city, were read by some who never before had looked inside the Word of God.

Church people who distributed these Gospels in their own communities to "neighbors" whom they did not know were often amazed at the response. People appreciated their visits as an expression of Christian friendliness, received the Gospels more readily than they had expected, and often told them later how reading the "little books" had helped them.

Secretary Stanton, of the Society's Haven Memorial Agency among the Colored People, led a group of six speakers engaged in a parallel program among Negro churches and civic organizations.

Generous cooperation by the press through news stories, editorials and cartoons; by several leading stores through displays in their show windows; and by the Public Service Company through providing space for placards in street cars and buses all helped in bringing the Bible and the Bible Crusade to the attention of the entire city.

Letters from pastors pay tribute to the Bible Crusade for the lasting benefits it conferred on the entire community through emphasis on Bible reading and stimulation of church attendance, as also through the spirit of fellowship among the churches growing out of this cooperative effort to magnify the Bible in the life of the people.

What New Orleans has done your city can do. The American Bible Society stands ready to cooperate in the sponsorship and direction of such crusades throughout the nation. If you are interested in having one in your city, write to Secretary Rome A. Betts, American Bible Society, Park Avenue and 57th Street, New York 22, New York.



Every Service Testament is examined for any defect in material or workmanship

(Continued from inside front cover)

as yet, we wish to thank you in advance for your much-appreciated aid to us in His service."

"Hope folks at home are as interested"

"Thank you for the fine package that came today. You are so kind to help me. This is such a good assortment. So, thanks!—my men will enjoy these so much. I was about out. Wish you could see and hear along with me. God's blessing on you and your work! Appreciate your prayers and great help.

"Hope folks at home are as interested in spiritual things as their men are over here."

From Chaplain Willis B. Townsend of the U. S. Coast Guard

"The New Testaments with the insignia of the Coast Guard which I ordered have arrived in good condition, and I wish to thank you sincerely for sending them to me. I am still finding a constant demand for the New Testament. So far I have distributed nearly a thousand Testaments over the Oregon coast, entirely at the request of the men themselves."

An appeal from the Marines

"This letter is a request for 200 copies of the small, brown cover New Testament which is prepared for the Marine Corps. In the lower right hand corner of the Testament the Marine emblem is stamped in gold. On a flyleaf of the Testament is a

message from President Roosevelt; in the back of the book are several pages devoted to the Psalms, prayers and hymns.

"This Testament has proven to be the most popular item with the Marines to whom I am attached."

A Bible for the U. S. Submarine Sailfish

Chief Petty Officer W. B. Crytser, CY (PA) USN, came into the Society's office in San Francisco on the morning of June 17, requesting the grant of a Pulpit Bible for the U. S. Submarine *Sailfish*. He was a most earnest Christian young man and said that while the most of the men aboard the submarine had their Testaments, yet at almost any time one could be found standing in front of an altar upon which one sailor had left a Bible. This petty officer thought the plan so fine that he would like a regular chapel Bible for this purpose. With only a few more than a hundred men this submarine would of course have no chaplain. The American Bible Society promptly made a grant of a whole Bible for their little altar as they were in port for only a matter of hours.

When this Officer held the Bible in his hands, he said it would be a tremendous help and remarked, "A depth bomb really increases our Scripture reading." Then, with a parting word of gratitude, he said to District Secretary Bayless, "When we return to our home port here again after many months, I should like for you to come and hold services, using this Bible on our small altar on the *Sailfish*."

Memorial Gift Cards

To the Glory of God ✝	 I wait for the Lord, my soul doth wait, and in his word do I hope.—PSALM 130:5	To the Glory of God and in Loving Memory of a gift of _____ Dollars was made to the American Bible Society Bible House, New York, N. Y. to further its work of distributing the Holy Scriptures to hungry hearts all over the world. by _____
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FROM time to time over the past few months, several friends of the Society have suggested the use of a new means to secure additional gifts for its work. It will be new to the Society, but certain Lutheran agencies have for some time found the method successful.

Rather than send floral tributes to friends or relatives who have passed away, many people are now contributing in their memory to worthy causes and sending appropriately designed memorial cards supplied by the benefited organizations.

The Society has now prepared gift cards of this type and will be glad to send samples on request.

Requisition cards can also be furnished. The message printed on the reverse of that card is:

HOW TO USE AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY MEMORIAL GIFT CARDS

A Memorial Gift Card is a donation made by a person or a group of persons in memory of a friend or relative at his funeral or at the anniversary of his death. The enclosed card, stating the purpose and the amount of

the gift, together with your name and the name of your friend or relative, is handed or mailed to the bereaved family, thus taking the place of perishable flowers and serving the double purpose of being a remembrance and also an aid to an important Christian enterprise. It can be preserved by the family as an abiding memorial to their loved one.

Your gift should be sent to the American Bible Society, Park Ave. and 57th St., New York 22, N. Y., preferably by check or money order.

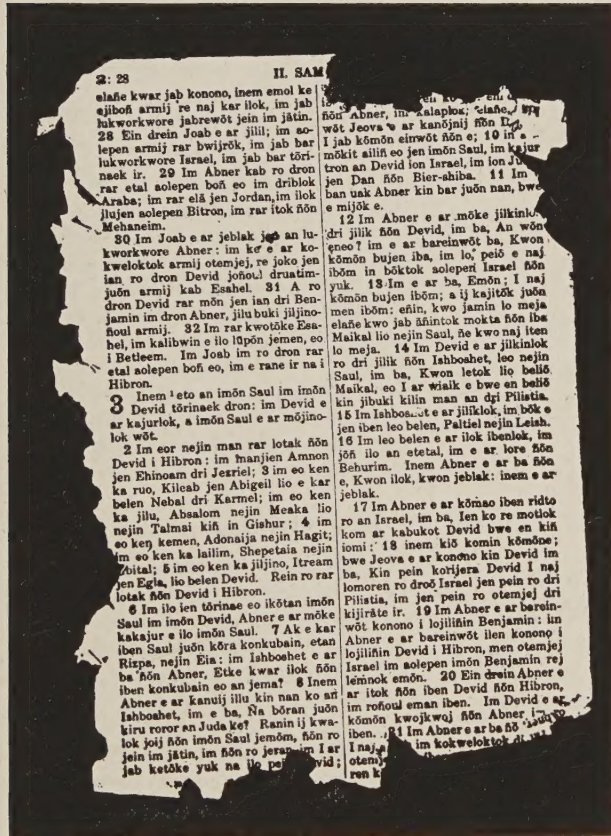
The American Bible Society furnishes attractive Memorial Gift Cards, without charge, upon request to any person who intends to make use of them as a tribute of respect to some friend or relative, especially if he or she was interested in the distribution of the Scriptures.

The Society invites pastors and church leaders to call to the attention of members of their congregations and of Christian people generally this practical and thoughtful method of remembering those who have gone before.

"But the word of the Lord endureth for ever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you." I Peter 1: 25.

Found in a Bomb Crater

IN a recent letter from Chaplain O. K. Olander of the U. S. S. *Princeton* he enclosed a photograph of a page from the Second Book of Samuel, which was found in a bomb crater on an island recently captured from the Japanese. He was interested regarding the language or dialect appearing on it. This interesting page is reproduced here.



The Society's librarian informs us that the language is that spoken by Marshall Islanders. A reproduction of a sample of this language is to be found in the Society's volume "The Book of a Thousand Tongues." It is there indicated that the language is spoken by about 15,000 people in the Marshall Islands group, and that the first publications in this tongue were parts of St. Matthew's Gospel printed on the mission press at Ebon Island in 1858. The Bible Society plans a new issue of Scriptures in the near future for these liberated islanders.

This inquiry from Chaplain Olander graphically recalls the widespread use of the Christian Scriptures among the Pacific Islands. Our soldiers, sailors and marines have on many occasions been greatly

surprised to find Christian natives on these islands with Scriptures in their own languages.

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Thirty Years Ago

FROM Carlisle V. Hibbard, of Madison, Wisconsin, comes the following very interesting account of his service thirty years ago.

"Thirty years ago I was serving under the Y.M.C.A. with the Japanese army in Manchuria. We were supplied with little paper Gospels in the Japanese language by the American Bible Society. There was much suspicion of Christian propaganda among army officials and we had to be prudent, but often when I was clipping the hair of wounded soldiers, or similarly occupied, a group hanging around would begin to question me about the auspices under which we worked, who paid the bills, and why.

"With that opening I could get in a little simple talk about the Christian way of life. Somebody would say, 'That sounds all right to me, though I have always heard Christianity was an evil religion. Have you a book that tells about it?' 'Yes, we have some little booklets. We do not sell them, but if you go to the desk, sign your name and regimental number, you are welcome to one.' That put the initiative on them, and we gave away some tens of thousands at the two points where the Y.M.C.A. was working.

"After the war men turned up at country churches, and all over the place with worn copies and wanted to know more. A student once told me that, lost in remote mountain country, he came at night to a lonely cottage where he asked for lodging. The man of the house was an old soldier with only one leg. During the evening he got out his Gospel of John and asked the student about it. He said it was worth more to him than the leg he had lost.

"You see, I was a sitting duck for your war pamphlet. As a retired secretary my benevolent impulses have to be curbed at times, but this year I have some extra income and take satisfaction in sending this little check."

• •

Word from the Gilbert Islands

REV. G. H. EASTMAN, missionary in the Gilbert Islands, writes:

"The Bible has been a great solace and is much sought after; but in some cases the enemy deliberately destroyed our stock of Bibles, books and school materials, and even robbed pastors of their own Bibles and clothes unless such were hidden."



Editorial Comment



BIBLE SOCIETY RECORD

*A Journal Dedicated to the Wider
Distribution of the Holy Scriptures*

Editors: THE SECRETARIES

Address correspondence to Francis
Carr Stifler, Secretary, Bible
House, Park Avenue and
57th Street, New York



VOL. 89 SEPTEMBER 1944 No. 7

Radio

THE series of broadcasts on "The Changeless Bible" which was formerly heard over the Blue Network on Thursday at 12 noon Eastern War Time has been changed to 8:15 a. m. Eastern War Time. Early morning listeners to the radio will now have an opportunity of hearing this popular series on the Bible which is being given for the seventh consecutive year. The series runs from June 1 to September 28.

General Secretary Betts presented the addresses through June and July and General Secretary North has been the speaker during August and will continue through September.

Single copies of the addresses may be secured without charge by writing to the station to which you listen.

REV. MARCUS CHEN, a Chinese evangelist, reports that "The Chinese in churches in Malaya are allowed to gather and to sing and pray and read the Bible, but are not allowed to preach." He managed to travel out, carrying his seven versions of the Bible, three Chinese, one English, one Swedish, one Hebrew and one Greek.

From China a former student writes: "There are many sincere Christians here. You can see some one putting out a notice saying that

he will pay a high price to buy a Bible." And from another comes this word: "I had missed many, many good chances while I was in my lovable school. To say a truth, the first time I went to church after I got Changting, I wrapped my Bible with handkerchief. However it isn't now."

A Subway Placard

SOME of our readers may have noticed in the New York subway cars the placard "Our Town Oddities" on which appears a sketch of the Society's globe with the following statement:

Press a button and this globe shows the locale of 999 languages into which the Bible has been translated. It's at AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY, 57th St. and Park Ave., whose public library has Bibles in 861 languages and dialects.

NEW ORLEANS BIBLE CRUSADE

THE following letter of appreciation has been received from the New Orleans Ministerial Union:

Gentlemen:

Writing on behalf of the New Orleans Ministerial Union and the co-operating churches, we wish to express our sincere thanks to the American Bible Society for the very splendid Bible Crusade conducted in our City April 23-May 7.

It is the unanimous opinion of all who participated in the Crusade that it was one of the most significant and helpful undertakings which we have ever had in New Orleans. Every church which participated was richly blessed. Through the newspapers, the radio, street car placards, posters, and window displays, and other media, the attention of New Orleans was focused upon the Bible, "Book of Books," as it has never been heretofore.

We would express our thanks especially for the excellent leadership of the Crusade which the American Bible Society gave us. Mr. Langham, Mr. Bookmeyer, Mr. Betts, and all of the

secretaries who participated with us were high-class, Christian gentlemen. They made a profound impression upon our City and did the American Bible Society much lasting good. In writing our thanks, we express the fervent hope that a similar Crusade may be conducted here at some future date.

(signed) W. R. Vivrett, President

(signed) J. D. Grey, Bible Crusade
General Chairman

(see page 106)

CHAPLAIN Frank L. Titus writes us from the Mariannas:

"We have just finished the battle on Saipan. We found very little evidence of Christian teaching except among the original natives who were converted to catholicism in the 17th century. The exception to this was evidenced in the finding in a cave of a copy of the Holy Bible published by the Tokyo branch of the American Bible Society."

July Meeting of the Board

THE third stated meeting of the Board of Managers of the American Bible Society in its one hundred and twenty-ninth year was held at the Bible House, Park Avenue and 57th Street, New York 22, New York, on Thursday, July 6, 1944, at 3:30 o'clock, Mr. Everett Smith in the chair.

Devotional exercises were conducted by Rev. James P. Gillespie.

Daniel Burke, LL.D., was elected President of the Society.

The minutes of the various standing committees were presented and approved, and their recommendations adopted.

A summary of Distribution in the United States for the first quarter of 1944 showed a total of 1,918,816 volumes as compared with 1,732,253 volumes distributed during the same period of 1943, an increase of 186,563 volumes.

The death in Shanghai of Bishop E. S. Yü, a member of the Committee of the China Bible House, was reported.

The resignation of Mr. Graham Stewart as a member of the Board was accepted.

The meeting was adjourned.

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San Francisco 2, California—224 McAllister St... Wash., Ore., Calif., Nevada, Mont., Idaho, Wyo., Utah, Alaska, Hawaii.

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Caribbean—Rev. Raymond R. Gregory, Bible
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Upper Andes—Mr. John Ritchie, Apartado 448,
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"We Cry unto Thee for Help"

SEVENTEEN sick and wounded, and a crew of six, in an army transport plane, crash-landed on a coral reef, the water waist-high in the shattered cabin. For four days, in thirst, hunger, and pain, they waited for a rescue that might never come. On the fifth long day of waiting, a nineteen-year-old boy, sick with malaria and with wounds in his side and back, remembered it was Sunday. Church services were being held back home. There in the lone Pacific, they too held service. "O most powerful and glorious Lord God," they prayed, "we cry unto thee for help." Before another Sunday, help did come.

You may not be able to shoulder a gun. You may not have to share with our boys the terrible hardships of battle. But there is one thing you can do.

You can see to it that, through the American Bible Society, the Word of God is made available to our armed forces wherever they are, so that sometime, somewhere in the jungle or desert, those boys of ours—facing the supreme test of their courage—may find comfort, strength, and perhaps deliverance.

And for the future—remember, when you buy an American Bible Society Annuity Agreement, you not only help further the work of distributing Bibles and New Testaments to the young men of all races and of all lands in years to come, but at the same time, you receive as high as seven percent returns for your money. Do not fail! Investigate this Plan at once. Send for the booklet "A Gift That Lives."

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